

Message Text

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TAGS: ECON, PFOR, MX

SUBJECT: (A) "THIRD WORLD FORUM" (B) CLUB OF ROME MEETING
IN MEXICO

REF: (A) MEXICO 3727; (B) MEXICO 4579; (C) STATE 131276

1. DURING COURSE OF BROADER CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, CLUB OF
ROME PRESIDENT AURELIO PECCEI MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS RE SUBJECTS:

2. "THIRD WORLD FORUM" WILL RESEMBLE CLUB OF ROME IN FEW
RESPECTS ONLY. WHILE IT HAS SOME "VERY BRIGHT" MEMBERS (HE
CITED IGLESIAS, ULHAQ AND AMIN, REF A., AS EXAMPLES), IT IS
THIN ON TALENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL ABILITY AND UNLIKELY TO
PRODUCE IMPRESSIVE RESULTS. THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN A NUMBER
OF MEETINGS AND THE FORUM MAY WELL PRODUCE SOME SUGGESTIONS
FOR THIS FALL'S SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. PECCEI COMMENTED
THAT, WHILE THE CLUB OF ROME SEEKS A POINT "EQUIDISTANT" BETWEEN
THE DEVELOPED, DEVELOPING AND ASSORTED OTHER "WORLDS" FROM
WHICH TO DEVELOP ITS STUDIES, THE FORUM WILL BE FRANKLY
FILTERING ITS THOUGHT THROUGH THE THIRD WORLD OPTIC, WITH
WHATEVER MERITS AND DEMERITS THAT APPROACH MAY HAVE. PECCEI
NOTED IN PASSING THAT THE FORUM HAS LOTS OF MONEY AND, WHEN
QUESTIONED, OPINED THAT MANY LDC'S OPEC COUNTRIES IN PARTICULAR,
ARE ANXIOUS TO HELP SUCH AN EFFORT.

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3. PECCEI SAID THAT THE CLUB OF ROME MEETING SCHEDULED FOR

MEXICO IN THE LATTER HALF OF JULY IS MODELED ON THE CLUB'S SALZBURG MEETING IN FEBRUARY, 1974. THE CLUB HOPES THIS TIME TO HAVE "NOT NECESSARILY PRIME MINISTERS OR HEADS OF STATE", BUT HAS ASKED FOR HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATION FROM ABOUT 20 "MEDIUM SIZED" STATES, AND THERE IS INDICATION OF GOOD RESPONSE. PECCEI HAS ASKED SENATOR PELL, A MEMBER OF THE CLUB, TO DESIGNATE AND INVITE A SENATORIAL COLLEAGUE TO ATTEND SINCE PELL FEELS OBLIGED TO BE IN WASHINGTON IN LATE JULY. PECCEI READILY AGREED WITH OMBOFF'S SPECULATION THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AND HIS COLLEAGUES MAY ATTEMPT TO POLITICIZE THE OCCASION, BANGING THEIR FAVORITE ECONOMIC DRUMS. GRANTING THAT NOT MUCH COULD BE DONE TO PREVENT THE HOST FROM SAYING WHAT HE WISHED IN THE BEGINNING OPEN SESSION, PECCEI NOTED THAT OTHER SESSIONS WILL BE CLOSED AND NOT MUCH SUBJECT TO OUTSIDE MANIPULATION.

4. COMMENT: IN THIS AND PRIOR CONVERSATIONS, WITH OMBOFF, PECCEI HAS SHOWN BROAD AND BALANCED SYMPATHY WITH PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEIR LEADERS. HE HAS A HIGH OPINION OF ECHEVERRIA, WHOSE YOUTH, INTELLIGENCE AND DRIVE CONTAIN THE MAKINGS OF A REAL INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN, EVEN IF NOW HIS PUBLIC CONDUCT IS MORE EXUBERANT THAN HIS PRIVATE DEMEANOR. VOLPE

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